

SERIAL NO: 10/034,438
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REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION OF 5 JULY 2005

I. Amendment to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A database free space management method, comprising:
- identifying a first range of key values associated with a first set of rows in a database file;
 - assigning first values to each of a plurality of free space management parameters associated with the first range of key values;
 - identifying a second range of key values associated with a second set of rows in the database file;
 - assigning second values to each of a plurality of free space management parameters associated with the second range of key values, ~~wherein the second values differ from the first values by at least one free space management parameter value;~~
 - managing free space associated with the first set of rows in accordance with the first values; and
 - managing free space associated with the second set of rows in accordance with the